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OF
ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM IN ENGLAND

REMARKS OF HON. D. MACKEEN,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia
ON
The Presentation of the Insignia of the Order
TO
MRS. ARCHIBALD
MISS CARMICHAEL
and
MR. JUSTICE CHISHOLM
AT
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

May 10th, 1916

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NOTE.

At Government House, Halifax, on May 10th, 1916, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor invested Mrs. Archibald, Miss Carmichael and Mr. Justice Chisholm with the insignia of the order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Among those present on the occasion were:

Sir Malachi Daly, K. C. M. G., Hon. Mr. Justice Harris, D. Macgillvray, W. H. Studd, (Hon. Secretary, N. S. Branch,) Hon. R. M. MacGregor, Charles Archibald, Capt. Hicks, Mrs. G. S. Campbell, The Misses Chipman, Mrs. Harold Oxley, Miss Anna Carmichael, the Misses Chisholm, Miss Kelly.

His Honour gave an excellent sketch of the order, and it is now published for the information of all who take an interest in the work.

His Honour's Address.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I have been commanded by Field Marshal His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught to invest with the insignia of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England two ladies and a gentleman who are present and who have recently been admitted to that renowned and historic Order, namely: Edith Jessie, Mrs. Archibald, with the badge of a Lady of Grace of the Order; Caroline Elizabeth, Miss Carmichael with that of Honorary Associate and Joseph Andrew, Mr. Justice Chisholm with that of Esquire.

My duty is a pleasant one and I cordially congratulate the recipients upon the high honour that has come to them.

The Order of St. John of Jerusalem is founded upon the principle of self-sacrifice and embodies that essential principle of chivalry—readiness to protect the weak. We are told that as early as the third century of the Christian era pious pilgrims began to journey

to the Holy City of Jerusalem and that there a hospital existed, which was a refuge for sick and weary pilgrims. At the beginning of the eleventh century, with the permission of the Moslem Caliph, some rich Neapolitan merchants founded and endowed a hospital in Jerusalem, or rather, as is believed, placed the old one on a more solid and enduring footing; and thus was established the Order of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. The Order instituted branch hospitals in many of the maritime countries of Europe, and its splendid history is written in the annals of all the great nations of western Europe. It was both a religious and military order; it ministered to the wants of the sick and distressed and at times it fought to preserve Europe from the onrush of the Turks.

In 1291, the Knights were driven from Palestine by the Turks and they went to Cyprus and nineteen years later to the Island of Rhodes which they occupied as their headquarters for more than two centuries.

In 1522 they were driven from the Island of Rhodes by their ancient enemy, and for a few years the Grand Master was like a King without a kingdom; but in 1530 the Emperor Charles V conferred upon the Order of St. John the perpetual sovereignity of the island of Malta, and there it carried on its great work of mercy until Napoleon Bonaparte took possession of the island in 1797, when the Order for a short time disappeared as an organized body.

In England as early as 1130, the Rector of the Hospital established the Order, selecting for headquarters the village of Clerkenwell, just outside the City of London. They built their Priory and carried on their noble work without interruption for over four hundred years, until in 1540, King Henry VIII suppressed the Order, confiscated their property, and executed such of the Knights as failed to escape to Malta.

The reduction of Malta by Napoleon did not put an end to the work of the Order.

The White Cross Brotherhood was soon recreated. In 1826, the surviving Knight and his brethren suggested the revival of the English Order of St. John. In 1831 the suggestion was carried into effect and the members of the newly organized body undertook the work of alleviating as of old the miseries of the sick and helpless. In 1877, St. John Ambulance Association was formed as an adjunct of the Order, its purpose being to give instruction how to treat the victims of accidents, and that part of the work, I am pleased to learn, is successfully carried on in this province.

In 1882, the Order founded a Hospice and Opthalmic Dispensary in Jerusalem, where the ancient Order first began its excellent work, the Sultan of Turkey contributing £900 to the cost of the building.

The Order has spread throughout the Empire. His Majesty is the Sovereign Head and no admission can be made to the Order without his express sanction.

The Grand Prior of the Order is Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who was elected to the position in 1890. The work of the Ambulance Department of the Order is energetically carried on in the various provinces of Canada, including Nova Scotia, of whose Provincial Council Mr. Justice Chisholm has been the President since 1910.

I desire again to congratulate the newly-elected members of this historic Order, and I will now, as commanded, invest them with their insignia.

OFFICERS OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH.

Hon. President—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

President—Hon. Mr. Justice Chisholm.

Vice-President—Hon. Mr. Justice Harris, S. M. Brookfield and Dr. W. H. Hattie.

Hon. Secretary—W. H. Studd.

Hon. Treasurer—F. Hope.

Executive Committee in addition to above—Hon. Senator Ross, Middleton; Dr. G. B. Cutten, Wolfville; Walter Crowe, K. C., Sydney; McC. Grant, Halifax; Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Cantley, New Glasgow; E. N. Rhodes, M. P., Amherst; and D. Macgillivray and Dr. G. H. Murphy, Halifax.